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MR. SPEAKER :—" I will take ten more minutes and finish the rest of the questions."

Manufacture of rural radio sets.

* 193 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state— 11 a.m.

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the manufacture of rural radio sets by the State Broadcasting Department has been discontinued;

(*b*) if so, from which date and for what reasons; and

(*c*) what alternative arrangements the Government have made to meet the demands of local bodies?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise.

" (*c*) Does not arise.

In order to meet the growing demand for sets from local bodies, it has been proposed to purchase from private firms also, some sets made to the specifications of the State Broadcasting Department and to watch their performance in the field before placing orders for bulk supply."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is it a fact that the State Government have called for tenders for the supply of broadcasting sets and is it a fact that a manufacturer from Coimbatore, Sri G. D. Naidu, has given a tender for supplying 1,500 sets and even though his rates were lower when compared with others, his tenders were not accepted and till this date no sets were purchased from anybody with the result the rural people are suffering? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have no information about the tenders that were called for. But, we have accorded sanction for the purchase of 20 sets from two different firms and an order has been placed with one firm and the tender of the other firm was rejected because, they say, that it did not satisfy the specifications of the State Broadcasting Department. That is all the information I have. But, the hon. Member mentions the name of a firm that has submitted a tender. I may be given notice to verify that fact."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" சர்க்கார் இப்பொழுது வாங்கி இருக்கக்கூடிய ப்ராட்கேஸ்டிங் செட்டுகள் இந்தியாவில் செய்யப்பட்டனவா அல்லது வெளி நாட்டில் செய்யப்பட்டனவா ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" They are only having an assembling plant here, the parts are imported from abroad."

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Eviction of Harijans in Malabar.

* 194 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation alleging the eviction of Harijans from their houses in Malabar and what action the Government have taken on it; and

(*b*) how far the Government authorities in Malabar have implemented the scheme for grant of 15 cents of land for house-sites to Harijans in that district?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" (*a*) Some representations alleging eviction of Harijans from their houses have been received by the Collector of Malabar. In ten really urgent cases, land acquisition proceedings have been started by him. The other cases are under investigation.

" (*b*) The implementation of the Scheme has been taken up by the Collector in really urgent cases. Preliminary enquiries are in progress."

SRI A. APPU :—" May I know whether a suit has been filed against a Harijan M.L.A. coming from Malabar, whether he has made a representation to the Director of Harijan Welfare to acquire the lands under the Land Acquisition Act and whether he has stated that he was prepared to deposit the amount required for the acquisition? Will the Government be pleased to acquire lands in such cases? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" As regards the first part of the question of the hon. Member, I may say that the Government have no information. As regards the second part of his question, I submit that the Collector has reported that in urgent hard cases, he is taking necessary action."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" The Hon. Minister in the answer given by him just now was saying that ten cases of eviction were represented to the Collector of Malabar. May I know from the Hon. Minister what action has been taken in view of the fact that after the eviction, these ten families are thrown in the street without having any houses to live in? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" The Collector of Malabar has reported that there were only 300 land acquisition cases in the district which were really considered urgent, that except in stray cases of eviction here and there in the district, no Harijan family had been thrown out of their residences and that no one was remaining without shelter."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" In view of the frequent complaints from Malabar and other places, will the Government consider the desirability of fixing a time-limit of three months or